

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yasushi SUGAYA, et al.

Serial No. Cont. of 09/761,710

Group Art Unit: 3662

Filed: March 4, 2002

Examiner: N. Moskowitz

For: MULTI-WAVELENGTH LIGHT AMPLIFIER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 25, with the following paragraph:

A light amplifier is known which has an optical fiber doped with a rare-earth element and directly amplifies the input light. There has been some activity in the development of a multi-wavelength light amplifier which amplifies a wavelength division multiplexed light signal including signal components having different wavelengths (channels).

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 35 and continuing through page 3, line 10, with the following paragraph:

The above-multi-wavelength light amplifier may be configured as follows. The first-stage light amplifier comprises a first pump source which pumps the first light amplifying optical fiber so as to have a first gain vs wavelength characteristic in which, as a wavelength of the light to be amplified becomes shorter, a gain of the first-stage light amplifier becomes higher. The second-stage light amplifier comprises a second pump source which pumps the second light amplifying optical fiber so as to have a second gain vs wavelength characteristic in which, as a wavelength of light to be amplified becomes longer, a gain of the first-stage light amplifier becomes higher.